

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Soviet Complaints about Damage to Blast
Furnaces at Brandenburg Steel Plant

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF
INFO.

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1. On 30 January 1951, Kozlov, Chief of the Industrial Division of the Soviet Control Commission, Berlin-Karlshorst, complained to Fritz Selbmann, Minister for Heavy Industry in the DDR, about the damage to the five blast furnaces in the Stahlwerk Brandenburg, which had resulted in a complete stoppage of production.* Kozlov asked that those responsible for what he called the "crime" be found, since, in his opinion, it was a case of sabotage.
2. In reply, Selbmann stated that it was very unlikely that this was a case of sabotage and, in his view, the damage to the blast furnaces was more probably due to the hurried manner in which these furnaces had been constructed. He promised to send Kozlov a detailed report on the Stahlwerk Brandenburg.**

* Comment: [redacted] the SKK had already, on several occasions, com-
plained about the bad discipline of workers in the Stahlwerk Brandenburg. [redacted]
[redacted] the damage to the blast furnaces had occurred about mid-January and [redacted]
complete stoppage had taken place during the week ending 27 January 1951. [redacted]
[redacted] two of the damaged blast furnaces have since been patched up.

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